



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Adam Smith
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Rogers:

I am requesting funding for Assessment of a National Laboratory for Transformational Computing in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is University of California San Diego, located at 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093.

The funding would be used to develop recommendations for a national microelectronics fabrication and design center, called the National Laboratory for Transformational Computing, that will translate basic research and development (R&D) within the U.S. to next generation semiconductor chips and computing systems and serve as a trusted fabricator for the U.S. government. The U.S. faces a crucial set of challenges regarding access to state-of-the-art semiconductor products and their future development. Intel has lost its leadership position to TSMC and Samsung, and the Chinese government is investing heavily in the development of semiconductor fabrication and R&D. These trends substantially threaten US economic development, national security, and global competitive stature. This challenge is recognized in the FY2021 NDAA, Sec. 276, which calls for “an assessment of the feasibility, usefulness, efficacy, and cost of developing a national laboratory exclusively focused on the research and development of microelectronics.”

Primary deliverables will be a report and roadmap detailing the development of the national laboratory and the education of decision makers regarding the findings and recommendations. The project will address not only the interests of the Department of Defense as outlined in the FY2021 NDAA, but also other government, industrial and academic partners.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Levin".

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress